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# **ATTORNEY PRESENTS ALIBI FOR CONVICTED NEGRO**

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Attorney Bernard L. Chapel has filed a motion for a new trial for Oscar Wright, one of the two negroes convicted in the superior court this week of holding up and assaulting Attorney Frank A. Hooper, who was associated with the prosecution of the Frank case.

The attorney declares that Wright on the date of the hold-up for which he was convicted, June 2, was in the county chaingang, and Transfer Guard Aaron Thompson declares that the negro was not released until July 19.

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## **PDF PAGE 13, COLUMN 4**

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# **JOHN Y. SMITH IS CHOSEN**

# **TO TRY MRS. CRAWFORD**

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## **Solicitor Dorsey Disqualified in Criminal Case, Which Is to Be Heard Soon**

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John Y. Smith, young attorney and a member of the state legislature, will prosecute Mrs. Mary Belle Crawford, who is charged by a justice court warrant with the murder of her husband, the late Joshua B. Crawford.

Mr. Smith was named Thursday afternoon as solicitor pro tem by Judge Benjamin H. Hill, of the criminal division of the superior court, the appointment being necessary because Solicitor General H. M. Dorsey is disqualified in the case. The solicitor's firm has been engaged in a part of the litigation over the \$250,000 estate left by the deceased, who was a wealthy pioneer of this county.

Mr. Smith declared Friday he would start work on the case during the day, and would make every effort to get it before the grand jury early next week.

"I am desirous of finishing the case as quickly as possible," said Mr. Smith, "and not only will use every effort to get action by the grand jury, but in the event of an indictment, I will do my utmost to force a trial of the issue within the next few weeks."

### **DEFENSE WANTS EARLY TRIAL.**

Attorney Burton Smith, who, with Reuben R. Arnold, represents Mrs. Crawford, appeared before Judge Hill and urged the appointment of a solicitor for the case, saying that Mrs. Crawford was extremely anxious to lift the cloud from her name. Attorney J. S. James, who represents the so-called Crawford heirs, who are prosecuting Mrs. Crawford, will assist Mr. Smith in the prosecution of the case.

It is probable that pending the outcome of the criminal proceedings, the hearing of the civil litigation over the Crawford estate may not be resumed for some weeks. The hearing, after having been in progress before James L. Anderson as auditor for a couple of months, was interrupted about two months ago because attorneys were engaged in the Frank case.

Mr. Anderson is anxious that the civil matter be continued and disposed of, but it is probable that the case will not be called until after there has been some action in the criminal matter.

The newly appointed solicitor pro tem will also have charge of the prosecution of Frederick Lumb, the New York barber, who has been charged by a warrant with conspiring with Mrs. Crawford to produce her husband's death.

The principal witness against Mrs. Crawford will be Dr. H. F. Harris, of the state board of health, who exhumed the body of J. B. Crawford, who died in 1909, during the spring of this year, and who claims to have found unmistakable traces of morphine poisoning.